CCDF Briefing December 30, 2008

Background

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) grant administered by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) provides five billion dollars in federal funds nationwide to improve accessibility and quality of child care. The CCDF provides child care subsidies to low-income parents so they can work, attend training or go to school.

The WA state Department of Early Learning (DEL) is the lead agency for the Child Care Development Fund. DEL submitted their first plan that covers CCDF activities from October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2009. Our next two year plan is due for submission on July 1, 2009.

Purpose

The CCDF steering committee is responsible for developing a timeline for the draft CCDF plan. The committee is also charged with deciding what data will be used and how input will be gathered from stakeholders. The steering committee is to report back to ELAC at the December 30th meeting with their recommendations.

Steering Committee Membership

Chairs: Jim Skucy and Lynne Shanafelt

Membership: Diane Johnson, Cynthia Juarez, Luana Gendron, Robin Higa

DEL Staff: Pat Dettling

Progress to Date

The committee met for a full day meeting in Yakima on November 24, 2008 at Children's Village.

The goals for the day:

- Gain familiarity with CCDF requirements and current DEL plan
- Develop draft timeline for CCDF plan
- Determine strategy for collecting information and community input

The committee reviewed the CCDF federal requirements and timelines and the State's current CCDF plan. The members gained an understanding of funding parameters under the grant.

Recommendations from the Committee

The committee suggested that the foundation of the work be focused on the four goals from the DEL strategic plan. Those goals include:

- Build a Comprehensive Early Learning System
- Strengthen Dialogue with Parents and Caregivers (to include relationship building)
- Build Public Awareness and Will to Act (to include trust)
- Build Organizational Excellence

The committee recommended that framework information should be collected to include:

- Delivery statement with an emphasis on values, trust, relationships
- Current Data
- Promising Practices
- Possibilities and Dreams

The committee will collect the information and provide a summary document to community stakeholders for review and input. The committee also will determine the venue for community review and input.

The draft timeline that was developed by the committee is as follows:

DRAFT TIMELINE

Develop Timeline and Collect Framework Information
Submit Initial Framework Information
Recommendations to ELAC
Steering Committee Conference Call
Complete Framework Document
Determine Venue for Community Input and Review
Conduct Community Input Review
Summarize Community Review Findings
Schedule Times and Places for Public Hearings
Complete First CCDF Draft
Final Draft to Director
Public Hearings
Final Plan to Administration for Children and Families

Next Meeting Date for Steering Committee

January 9, 2009 Conference Call 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Next Steps

Finalize framework document at the January 2009 conference call.

Determine venue for distributing information to stakeholder community for their review. Conduct reviews and summarize community input for consideration in the plan.